GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2005
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2001
SETTING UP OF PLANETARIUMS
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to increase the number of planetariums in the country in order to attract foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise and the time by which these are likely to be set up;

(c) the number of planetariums in the country at present, location-wise; and

(d) the approximate number of foreign and domestic tourists visit these planetarium every year, and the annual income earned from them, planetarium-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) to (d) : National Council of Science Museums, an autonomous organization, under the Ministry of Tourism & Culture,is primarily engaged in popularizing science and technology amongst students in particular and the citizens in general through a wide range of activities like science museums and science centres, etc. There is no proposal, at present, to set up any other planetarium in the Country. There are 29 science museums/centres and only the science centres at Nagpur and Calicut, have planetariums as part of the science museums. State Governments, municipal bodies and private entrepreneurs/trusts have also set up planetariums.These planetariums are not intended to attract foreign visitors. In so far as science centres at Nagpur and Calicut are concerned, 3.27 lakhs visitors including foreigners visited these science centres at Nagpur and Calicut during 2000-01, generating a revenue of Rs.26.75 lakhs.